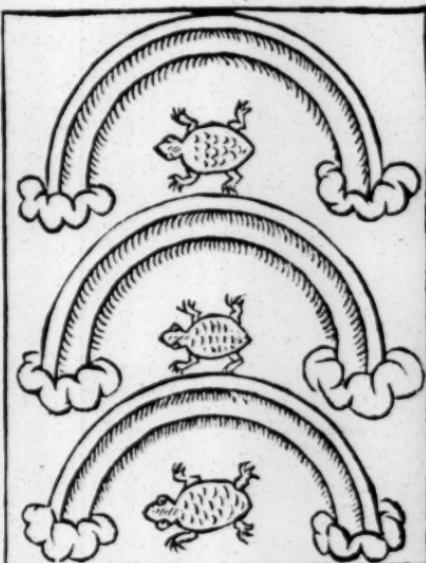


The miserable estate of the Citié of Paris at this present,

*With a true report of sundrie straunge visions, lately
seen in the ayre vpon the coast of Britanie,
both by Sea and lande.*



L O N D O N
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The miserable estate of the Cittie
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He present and distressed estate of the Cittie of Paris, as it is unknowen to some, so it is well knowen unto many thousand persons that daily feele the force and bitternes therof. The same being most extreme and lamentable, I could doe no lesse but lay it open to the view of the whole worlde that all the Cities in Christendome may take example by the same, and feare hereafter to attempt the like inhumaine, unnaturlall and most ungodly actions, which above all other that Cittie hath sundrie times committed, especially in two points: first, in slaugherting the blood of many thousande innocents, and secondly for rebelling and rebelling from time to time against the authozitie of their Soueraigne and Christian King, wherein they haue of long time peynisly continued. For which their so insolent crimes, doubtles almighty God doth justly plague and punish them, the rather to make it knowen unto them and others, that he is a iust God, and will punish the blood-thirstie and wicked, as he hath promised, euen to the third and fourth generation.

Such haue beeene the crimes of those pronde and disloyal Parisians, (who of late yearecs lived in great prosperitie, and abounded in wealth) that in the lise time of that blood-thirstie Butcher, and unnaturlall Murtherer of Christians called the Duke of Guise, with the consent of the Queene mother and her associates, suffered to be accomplished and performed within the saide Cittie, a lamentable Massacre of many thousand innocents in one night, and such especi-

ally as were of the flower and chiese of the Nobilitie of
 France, the fact being yet so fresh in memorie, that the
 bloud of those then slaughtered asketh reuenge and craueth
 bloud againe vpon those hard hearted helthornes and their
 p[re]strie, now maintayners of their unholy League, that
 long time haue resisted the authorite of the higher powres,
 and giuen their consentis to sake the dissolution and ruine
 of that kingdome, and the subuersion of their King, his
 Crowne and dignitie Royall, as they haue doone from
 time to time. For which their so horriblie actions, together
 with their grævous crimes and detestable pride, whoredome,
 incest, gluttony, and such like abhominable vices
 which they of long time vsed, it hath pleaked God to sende
 among them extreme famine (a sharpe messenger of re-
 uenge to punish them) whereby they are at this present in
 such grævous distresse as it is lamentable to report. For
 the Cittie is besieged round about by the Kinges powre
 which is very strong, and therby hath cut them off from ha-
 ving any victuals or other succour whatsoeuer, their victu-
 als within was spent leng since, whereby they are in wo-
 full case for want of stode. They are enforced to eate Hors-
 es, Asses, Dogges, Cattes, Rattes, Vite, and other fil-
 thie and vnaccustomed thinges for their sustenance, yea that
 which is more odious in respect of their necessitie, it is sayd
 that they are enforced to stede one vpon an other: and that
 through feblenesse and want of victuals they fall downe
 dead in the streetes and in their houses. A most lamentable
 and vnaccustomed thing to be done, yet constrainyd so to
 doe by meanes of thoir want and grævous famine, which
 is now generally amang them. This their necessitie may
 be compared to the wort & miserable state of the Jewes
 at the sledge of Jerusalem, where death threathned the de-
 struction of all the inhabitants, therby shewing them that
 for their wickednesse and wilfull stubbe[n]esse their destru-
 ction is at hand.

The Friers and Cleargie men who are the ring lea-
 ders and principall gouernours there at this present time,
 perceiving

perceiving the great necessarie wherunto the Citizens
 would bee driven, by meanes of their detestable persuasions,
 dealt politickely, sending for the Citizens of Paris
 into severall Cloisters & religious Houses within the same
 Cittie, and commandned them to bring in all their warlike
 furniture which they had in their houses, to the intent that
 they might see if they were serviceable or not for warre,
 so when they had gotten al the same furniture of pikes hal-
 bards, muskets, gunnes, dagges, swordes, and such like,
 they detained their weapons and sent every man home a-
 gain destitute of any furniture, wherwith to defend them-
 selves if occasion shoud serue, whereby they haue weake-
 ned the whole multitude of Citizens, and drawen the
 strength of the Cittie into their owne direction and go-
 vernment, fearing least that famine shoule compell the
 generall multitude to rebell against them, and so constrain
 the fatte fed Friers to yelde to their daily cutries, which
 is to yelde vpp the Cittie into the kinges handes, and to
 submitte them selves to his mercy, which to doe they can
 not compell them for want of weapons. Some here may
 happely demaunde, why the Cleargie men and chiefe Ruler,
 will not yelde it vpp as well as the rest, rather then
 to taste of famine and so to suffer so grievous and cruell a
 torment, which is more bitter then death, but for answere
 thereto let this suffice. The Leagers and Cleargy men
 of the Cittie, suspecting long before that such misery would
 come to passe, did vitaille themselves for a long time, so
 that those especially that are chiefe gouernours, Officers,
 Watchmen, and Guard to the Cittie, haue yet some suffi-
 cient maintenance, neuer theles the ordinary Friers are
 not farre differing from the generall state of the lay men in
 that City, for they are almost starved by reason of their
 small allowance, so that most of them looke like unto wild
 men, whose countenance to leame and stearne, as willing
 to snatch at the quarter of a god dogge, as sone as any
 other, though it costtewentie shillings, as at this present it
 is worth among them. This is the true estate of the

said City and inhabitants therin, whose misery is doubt-
 les sent of God, as a sharpe scourge for their so great wic-
 kednesse and disobedience towards God and their Sou-
 raigne. Thus doth God still harden the hearts of the Go-
 uernours, and maketh them wilfull, blinde, and foolish in
 their owne fancies, that their punishment for their wicked-
 nes might be the more sharpe and grievous. The Prince
 of Parma for certaintie hath entered France with tenne
 thousand men of horse and foote, but soon after hee
 passed the borders, intending to aide those of the League,
 the Kings power gave him a battaile and discomfited threes
 thousand of his men. They of the League are very sor-
 rowfull for that the towne of Moultray in Picardy is
 yeelded vp to the King, which is of certaine troth & done
 verie lately. A generall Battaille is daily expected sooth-
 with, betweene the Duke de Mayne and the Christian
 King of Fraunce, for whome almighty God daily doth
 fight, and will doubtles speedily deliver his enemies into
 his handes, they are within foure leagues one of another
 on both sides of a river. It is therefore very conuenient
 that all Christians shold pray for the good successe of the
 King, that it woulde please God to give him victory ouer
 those rebellious and traiterous persons. At the comming
 of the Prince of Parma into the French countries, it is re-
 ported there was visibly seene in the Aire to all his army,
 thre raine bowes, and betweene every one of them the
 forme of a toade, and presently the rivers ther about stemed
 nothing but bloud, and so continued for a shott space, wher-
 by his army was in great feare, and would willingly haue
 returned, but they were by their generall commaunded on
 paine of death to goe forwards. Sundry such sights haue
 lately beeene seene upon the coast of France, for one of her
 Maiesties shippes called the Mangard, being in the nar-
 row seas, met with nine bulkes and sixe boates of the lowe
 countries bound homeward from Spaine, where the Cap-
 taine examined them concerning sundry matters, who a-
 mong other things tolde him, that they being on the coaste

of France, on the one and twentith of June last, in a place
called Bell Ile, the sea round about them was of the cou-
ler of blood, for the full space of halfe an houre, and nothing
was to be seene but bloud, so far as they could discerne, &
taking vp the water in their buckets, they could not per-
ceyne it from bloude : this the Maister and other in the
company did sweare to be true. Moreouer in July last past
the saide Shipppe of her Maiesties called the Mangard be-
ing at sea, in an evening about setting time of the watch,
all the men in the shipp at the rising of the moone, did dis-
cerne in the aire ouer the moone the shape of a man, with
a crowne on his head and the King of Spaines armes plain-
ly displaide, which continued visibly to bee seene for some
small space, and soone after it was as a thing ouerthronen
and vanisched away, and seemed to them as though it were
falling.

All which visions generall by the conjecture of sundry of
god iudgement presageth, the ruine and confusion of those
unholie Leaguers, vpholden by the Pops and the King of
Spaine, and contrariwise the god successe of the frenche
King, whose ancient armes is the three toades. God for
his mercie sake dally defende and protect him, that he may
vanquishe all his enemies, which seeke and pretend his vt-
ter confusion, which God grant for his mercy sake. Amen.

F I N I S.



